

Regular Meeting of the Advisory Board of Recreation and Parks
Held at the Falls Church Community Center
223 Little Falls Street, Falls Church, Virginia 22046

Minutes
October 3, 2007

1. Call to Order

Mr. Meeks called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Members present were Joyce Berg, Katherine Chandler, Rob Meeks, Gerard Mene, and Charley O'Hara. Staff present was Howard Herman, General Manager of Community Services, Daniel Schlitt, Deputy Director of Recreation & Parks, and Linda Weikle, Senior Administrative Assistant. Vice Mayor Lindy Hockenberry was also present.

2. Receipt of Public Petitions and Board Member Petitions

Mr. Meeks asked if there were any petitions from the public or board members. There were none.

3. Minutes

The Board requested that the minutes be corrected under 6.a. Project Updates, first line, to say "Installation of the generator at the Community Center will be completed by the end of September."

Mr. O'Hara moved to approve the September 5, 2007 minutes as corrected. Mr. Mene seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, the motion passed.

4. Recreation Director's Report

Mr. Herman reported:

- There was an excellent turnout for the Fall Festival and Taste of Falls Church. The weather was beautiful. The restaurants were running out of food and scrambling to bring in more. Hopefully more restaurants will participate next year. Staff sold about 5,000 Taste tickets. There were about 10,000 ride tickets sold.
- Farm Day is Saturday, Oct. 6, and the weather forecast is good. This is a nice family event with hayrides, scarecrow making, pumpkin decorating, and a petting zoo.
- The middle school dance had about 200 students in attendance.
- The gym floor resurfacing is done. Classes have started. The Winter/Spring brochure will be published on glossy paper.

- Debbie Wright, the class coordinator, is serving on a committee in cooperation with the schools to plan after-school activities.
- Select basketball tryouts have started. Soccer is going well; the weather has been great so no games have been cancelled. The Madison field is going to need some significant work after the season is over. The summer's drought was hard on the field.

5. New Business

a. Election of Officers

Rob Meeks was nominated for Chairman and Gerard Mene was nominated for Vice Chairman. The board unanimously voted for Mr. Meeks to remain as Chairman and for Gerard Mene to remain as Vice Chairman.

b. Open Space Report

The Board discussed the priorities for the report. The Board still feels that the number one priority is additional rectangular athletic field space. The Board encouraged staff to explore all possibilities for an agreement with one of the surrounding jurisdictions. Larry Graves Park, Madison Manor, East Falls Church and Kenmore were all discussed.

An updated draft of the report will be e-mailed to everyone for comment so that the Board can adopt a plan at the next Board meeting. The Board will present the report to Council at the November 13 Council meeting.

6. Old Business

a. Project Updates

The generator has been installed at the Community Center and will be tested in about ten days.

The skate park equipment is set up in Madison Park and will be there for a month or two. It will be advertised in E-Focus, the Falls Church News-Press Focus column, and with fliers at the school. It uses six parking spaces. Mr. Herman saw some new portable equipment displayed at the National Recreation and Parks Society conference that staff might consider purchasing if all goes well with the current equipment. Staff is considering using a basketball court at one of the parks for the skateboard equipment as the next site

Mr. Schlitt has been researching costs of demolition and deconstruction for the Lee Street house.

There will be a final plan of action for the Frady Park improvements in about 30 days.

Proposals for landscape architects will be sent out around mid-November for the Hamlett/Reese and West End Parks.

7. Other Business

There was none.

8. Adjournment

Mr. Mene moved to adjourn the meeting; Ms. Berg seconded the motion. Following a unanimous voice vote, Mr. Meeks adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

(Approved November 7, 2007)

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